

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
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R 091547Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6032
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
USMISSION GENEVA
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO TAGS AND SUBJECT ADDED)
E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PINS, SREF, AR, PE

SUBJECT: STATUS OF PERUVIAN EXILES

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 4131 (B) BUENOS AIRES 4209
(C) BUENOS AIRES 4294 (D) LIMA 4591 (ALL NOTAL)

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING THE INTERIOR MINISTER'S OFFER OF
POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR THE PERUVIAN EXILES, FIVE HAVE
ACCEPTED ASYLEE STATUS IN ARGENTINA; TWO ARE MAKING
ARRANGEMENTS TO RETURN TO PLACES OF FORMER RESIDENCE
IN SWEDEN AND MEXICO; AND THE REMAINING SIX HAVE
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REQUESTED RESETTLEMENT IN THIRD COUNTRIES OUTSIDE
ARGENTINA. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS AND OTHER SOURCES,
PERUVIAN ADMIRALS GUILLERMO FAURA GAIG AND JOSE
ARCE LARCO AND JOURNALIST ALFONSO BAELLA TUESTA
HAVE BEEN GRANTED ASYLUM IN ARGENTINA AND ARE

BEING RESETTLED IN BUENOS AIRES. UNION LEADERS JUSTINIANO ROMULO APAZA ORDONEZ AND VALENTIN PACHO QUISPE HAVE ALSO BEEN GRANTED ASYLUM AND ARE BEING RESETTLED IN GENERAL PICO IN THE PROVINCE OF LA PAMPA, THE LOCATION SELECTED FOR THEIR RESIDENCE. ANGEL HUGO BLANCO GALDOS AND RICARD DIAZ CHAVEZ, WHO REQUESTED TRANSFER TO SWEDEN AND MEXICO RESPECTIVELY, ARE CURRENTLY LODGED IN FEDERAL SECURITY HEADQUARTERS IN BUENOS AIRES WHILE ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR THEIR RESETTLEMENT. REPORTEDLY THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR HAS SIGNALLED SWEDEN'S ACCEPTANCE OF BLANCO GALDOS (WHO RESIDED EARLIER IN SWEDEN), BUT THE MEXICAN EMBASSY HAS YET TO REPLY ON THE STATUS OF DIAZ CHAVEZ.

2. THE REMAINING SIX, DIEZ CANSECO CISNEROS, ALVARADO BRAVO, DAMONTE LARRAIN, LEDESMA IZQUIETA, LETTS COLMENARES, AND NAPURI SCHAPIRO ORIGINALLY REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN ARGENTINA BUT LATER REJECTED IT AND ASKED TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THIRD COUNTRIES OF THEIR CHOICE. THE COUNTRIES REQUESTED INCLUDE COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, SPAIN, FRANCE, MEXICO AND CUBA (ALSO, THE US, SEE BELOW.) THESE SIX HAVE ALSO BEEN BROUGHT TO BUENOS AIRES AND LODGED IN FEDERAL SECURITY HEADQUARTERS WHILE ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR THEIR TRAVEL AND RESETTLEMENT.

3. DESPITE AN OFFER BY LOCAL UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN LYONETTE TO ACCEPT THE PERUVIANS UNDER THE UNHCR MANDATE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND ARRANGE FOR ONWARD TRAVEL, THE GOA HAS DETERMINED TO MAKE BILATERAL APPROACHES TO THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. ARGENTINA DOES NOT RECOGNIZE LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS AS "REFUGEES" UNDER THE UNHCR MANDATE. LYONETTE TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 8 THAT GOA IS PROBABLY AVOIDING REQUESTING UNHCR TO BECOME FURTHER OFFICIALLY INVOLVED WITH LATIN AMERICAN EXILES IN ARGENTINA. (NOTE: CHILEAN AND OTHER "REFUGEES" ALREADY CONSTITUTE SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS.) INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, HAVE LEFT IT UNDERSTOOD WITH LYONETTE THAT IN THE CASE OF PROBLEMS SOME ROLE FOR UNHCR MAY YET BE FOUND.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, GOA HAS PROVIDED FUNDS AND CLAIMS IT WILL ARRANGE EMPLOYMENT FOR THOSE WILLING TO SETTLE IN ARGENTINA, AND IS FINANCING THE LODGING OF THE REMAINING PERUVIANS PENDING ONWARD TRAVEL. GOA HAS NO MEANS TO PAY FOR THEIR TRANSPORTATION TO THIRD COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, AND IS SOLICITING NOT JUST VISAS BUT TRAVEL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. (LYONETTE TOLD EMBOFF HE BELIEVES THE PERUVIAN EMBASSY HERE IS ASKING LIMA FOR TRAVEL ASSISTANCE FOR THE EXILES.)

5. FORN MINISTRY OFFICIAL JUAN CARLOS ARLIA CALLED JUNE 6 TO INFORM EMBASSY OF THE ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR THE PERUVIAN EXILES AS OUTLINED ABOVE. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE PERUVIANS ARE NOT BEING "DETAINED" "BUT RATHER "LODGED" IN FEDERAL SECURITY HEADQUARTERS. WHILE THEY ARE NOT PERMITTED TO GO FREELY ABOUT BUENOS AIRES BECAUSE OF THEIR IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS, THE EIGHT ARE ALLOWED TO RECEIVE REPORTERS, OFFICERS FROM EMBASSIES AND OTHER VISITORS.

6. ARLIA ALSO ADVISED EMBOFF JUNE 6 THAT ONE OF THE PERUVIANS, RICARDO LETTS COLMENARES, HAD ASKED GOA TO PERMIT HIM TO SEE THE AMBERICAN AMBASSADOR. COLMANARES WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO COME TO THE EMBASSY, HE SAID, BUT AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL COULD VISIT HIM AT FEDERAL SECURITY. ON JUNE 7, A US LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSULAR OFFICER VISITED LETTS COLMENARES AT FEDERAL SECURITY WHERE THE PERUVIAN REQUESTED POLITICAL ASYLUM IN THE US. (SEE SEPTEL CONCERNING LETTS COLMENARES PETITION.)

7. COMMENT: ARLIA'S CALL WAS APPARENTLY TO HEAD OFF CHARGES THAT GOA HAD RENEGED ON ITS OFFER OF POLITICAL ASYLUM TO THE PERUVIAN EXILES OR THAT IT WAS UNNECESSARILY LIMITING THEIR FREEDOM OR BLOCKING THEIR COMMUNICATION WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD. UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE LYONETTE IS FOLLOWING THE PERUVIANS' CASE CLOSELY AND HAS REASSURED HIMSELF IN TALKS WITH THE INTERIOR MINISTRY THAT THE PERUVIANS ARE BEING PROPERLY TREATED. LYONETTE WILL VISIT THE PERUVIANS AT FEDERAL SECURITY HEADQUARTERS ON JUNE 9. THE UNHCR REMAINS READY TO ASSIST GOA SHOULD ANY PROBLEMS ARISE WITH RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY WITH POTENTIAL RECIPIENT FOREIGN COUNTRIES. AT THE SAME TIME, LETTS COLMENARES COMPLAINED TO EMBOFF OF HAVING BEEN HELD "INCOMMUNICADO" BETWEEN JUNE 3-6, AND IT IS POSSIBLE FURTHER ALLEGATIONS OF UNDUE RESTRICTIVENESS BY OTHERS OF THE EIGHT PERUVIANS WHO, IN CHOOSING NOT TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF POLITICAL EXILE IN ARGENTINA, SEEM TO FIND THEMSELVES IN SOME GREY IMMIGRATION ZONE WHICH, REQUIRES CONTINUED "LODGING" BY THE POLICE.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 09 jun 1978
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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TAGS: SREF, PINS, AR, PE, (FAURA GAIG, GUILLERMO), (ARCE LARCO, JOSE), (BAELLA TUESTA, ALFONSO)
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